Proposals in Congress to Make Constitution Amending Easier

BY G. GOULD LINCOLN. support of the great mass of the people. Since the date of the Constitution's adoption in 1789 the fundamental law of the land has been amended nineteen times-and the first of rights," which safeguard freedom zens irrespective of color, fedéral income taxes, the election of United the Constitution were violated or not. States senators by popular vote, prohibition and woman suffrage.

under the provisions of the Constitution, and have not advocated easier and simpler methods of changing the and, in effect, to take from the Suopinion of Senator La Follette, there has grown up in this country a "judicial oligarchy," headed by the Supreme Court, and this oligarchy should have its wings clipped. He made the charge during an address decision of the Supreme Court holding the child labor law unconstitutional. He has reiterated the charge on the floor of the Senate. The American Federation of Labor has taken up the matter, and has committed itself to an amendment of the Constitution in line with that proposed by the Wisconsin senator.

shall set aside a law of Congress on law of Congress. His resolution pr THEN the Constitution of the the ground that it is unconstitutional, vides that the Constitution may be United States was framed 2. That if the Supreme Court as- amended "in the following manner and by the forefathers of the sumes to decide any law of Congress in no other way: An amendment or country precaution was unconstitutional, or by interpreta- amendments or the calling of a consti taken to make it impossible of change | tion undertakes to assert a public tutional convention may be proposed: or amendment until after any pro- policy at variance with the statutory "By a majority vote of the member posed change had been scrutinized declaration of Congress, which alone of each house of Congress. under our system is authorized to determine the public policies of government, the Congress may, by repassing the law, nullify the action of the ably shall constitute a rejection.

If the proposal of Senator La Fol- or amendments or the calling of a con ten amendments, containing the "bill lette-which the American Federa- stitutional convention when requester tion of Labor has apparently taken of speech and of religious belief, etc., as its own-should be adopted, then | Congress or either house may submi were adopted in 1791. The rest of the any law which Congress should see amendments, nine in number, are the fit to pass by a majority vote would only changes in the Constitution made be law of the land and there would in the course of 131 years. They deal exist in the courts no protection with slavery, equal rights for citi- against it, whether the rights guaranteed citizens of the country under

The President may veto the bills passed by Congress, but the Congress has the power to override his veto by But because the Constitution has a two-thirds vote. In the case of the been amended so few times does not judicial veto exercised by the Sumean that many men both in and out preme Court, holding a law unconof Congress have not been restive stitutional, the plan is to provide for overriding by a mere majority vote.

Suppose Congress, for example, should pass a law in any way limiting the fundamental law. Senator La Fol- freedom of religious worship, or setting lette of Wisconsin is the latest to up a state church. The courts, under urge a constitutional amendment. He the proposed plan, would not have the proposes to curb the federal courts, right to hold this law unconstitutional -even though it violates the express preme Court the right to determine provision of the Constitution. The Suwhether a law enacted by Congress preme Court might venture an opinion conforms to the Constitution. In the that it was not constitutional. But if Congress again passed the law by a majority, the opinion of the Supreme Court would be of no avail. It would, in effect, provide for the amendment of the Constitution by a law passed by Congress. The supreme law of the land -the Constitution-would no longer be Labor, dealing particularly with the in any different situation from any law be remarked that now it requires a twothirds vote of Congress to submit a proposed amendment to the states and that then the amendment must be ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states before it becomes effective.

duced in several Congresses a resolution The plan of Senator La Follette is proposing easier methods of amending ality, when considered in connection a congressional veto of decisions of the Constitution. Such a resolution is the Supreme Court. He will offer a now before the Senate judiciary com- States, is a matter which has never resolution proposing an amendment mittee. But he has not proposed to yet been determined. Senator L

"By either house should the other house twice reject the proposal, and failure for three months to act favor

"Congress shall propose an amenda competing measures."

The amendments so proposed are to be voted upon, not by state legislatures but directly by the people in the states and a majority of the votes so cast i a majority of the congressional districts, together with a majortiv of all the votes cast thereon, shall ratify. The constitutionality of many laws

enacted by the legislatures of the states, as well as by Congress, has been questioned in the courts. In very many cases the constitutionality of the laws so enacted has been upheld by the court. To mention a comparatively recent case which touched Washington closely - the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Ball rent act for the District of Columbia. In many other cases, it is true that the Supreme Court has held that laws enacted have been in conflict with the provisions of the Conchild labor laws unconstitutional. It held the first income tax law uncon stitutional, and the Constitution was

amended to meet the difficulty. was one of those who urged that the will of the people be registered if the courts should render decisions which were contrary to the wishes, of the He urged the recall of judicial decisions. The recall of judges has had advocates, too, in some quarters.

But whether the people of the coun tive acts of Congress, as approved by the President or passed over his veto, set up as supreme, with no with the Constitution of the United to the Constitution which shall hold: take from the Supreme Court the power | Follette means to have the question 1. That no inferior federal judge of passing on the constitutionality of a decided, if he can.

G. O. P. LEADERS FEELING A SHADE MORE CHEERFUL

BY N. O. MESSENGER.

HEY are feeling much better, thank you, the bigwigs of the republican party in Congress and the administration. Awhile back they were very low in spirits, as everything seemed to be going against them, but now they are cheering up considerably. It is declared that things are improving in the political field, and the outlook is clearing in the House and Senate for

The party leaders are taking a fresh hold on courage and resolution, and yow they are going to battle their way through their difficulties and be on the crest of a rising tide of fortune, come November. The action of the republican leaders in the Senate in agreeing upon a program of legislation appears to have had a stimulating effect all along the line, clearing the atmosphere in the House as well, and bracing up the party morale generally.

* * * * Once the tariff bill is out of the way and the bonus bill assed, and either vetoed or signed by the President, the republican membership of the House and those senators who are up for re-election will be able to buckle down to the hard work of the strenuous campaign ahead of them.

All the politicians are concerned in the possibility of cleaning up the legislative decks in time to give a breathing spell before the election, but it is not yet clear how this is to be done. The tariff bill is bound to be a long time in conference, with its more than 2,000 amendments.

Since the republicans of the Senate have resolved not to permit adjournment or recess until the tariff and the bonus have been disposed of, it is evident that there will have to be considerable speeding up in the next few weeks. The fact that the President and the party leaders in Congress are in better accord than lately on every-thing except the bonus bill gives the leaders hope that swifter progress can be made with legislation from now on.

The republicans seem to be agreed upon the proposition that it would be very unfortunate if they have to go to the polls in November with the tariff and the bonus bills still unacted upon. and every effort is to be bent to preventing such a mischance.

The reports which they get of the sentiment of the public about the tariff are that the country is more interested in having the tariff out of the way than in the details of rates and schedules. The democrats, for their part, hold the opinion that they will be able to show that all the rates tend in the one direction of raising costs to the consumer, and that shading here and there do not amount to anything, so they will be not particularly interested in the squabbles of the conference committee.

As showing how political theories and practical experience often fail to jibe, consider what is going on now. Customs reports show enormous importation of manufactured goods coming in under the low rates, or no rates, of the present tariff law. Domestic statistics show increasing costs to the consumer on many lines of goods. Where is that theory of lower prices to the purchaser with low tariff and a flood of importations? It is contended in some quarters hat the importers are reaping monstrus profits, and, of course, want to delay the proposed new tariff rates as long as possible.

Then, it is urged that when the new law goes into effect prices will be still further increased. And today the ultimate consumer finds that he is "catching it going and coming," before and after tariff legislation. It doesn't seem to promise him much bene-

Some of the politicians are wondering if the prosperity which the protective tariff men expect from the starting up of mills may not be submerged by a wave of unemployment should the coal strike continue and a rail strike come on, and whether even the farmer, who is now reported to be feeling easier, may not be caught in the general slump which would be caused thereby.

The farmer is said ot be unquestionably more contented with conditions now than six months ago, and, as one politician put it, "the farmer is the main asset of the republican party at this time." The farmer is not worrying about the tariff, because he has been protected by the emergency legislation ever since this administration came into power; that was the first thing attended to, and he will remain protected until the new law supersedes the present

The republicans are looking to the great farming states to stay with them in November and furnish a nucleus of political strength to be added to by the normal republican vote in the industrial com-

The republicans point out that the flurry in the republican ranks showing a recrudescence of progressivism as against the old guard does not mean democratic votes.

It means, so they say, that the votes that fall into the ballot boxes kill not be votes for democratic candidates from this element, but votes for republican candidates. In other words, they contend that whatever is to be done along progressive lines will still be intrusted to the republican party, made up of progressives and old

Chief Justice Taft the Fourth

Study of the Coal Situation Shows That Crisis May Be Here in August

BY WILLIAM J. WHEATLEY. OAL reserves or stocks of the country are rapidly being depleted. Figures in the possession of the various govsituation indicate that there is only enough bituminous coal on hand, together with the comparatively small

four to five weeks. There are no stocks of domestic size anthracite coal on hand, with the exception of pea size, and no anthracite is being mined. The stocks of pea size anthracite total only 1,200,000 tons. while that of steam size anthracite totals a like amount. What anthracite coal there is, with the exception of the pea size, is in the hands of the dealers, and the government investigators have found no accurate way least 63,000,000 tons. The quantity of collecting information on this point. These stocks, it was said at maximum reached at the end of the the Department of Commerce, have war. It was pointed out, however, practically all been sold.

From an examination of the figures in the possession of the geological survey of the Department of the Interior and the fuel division of added that when the stocks dropped the Department of Commerce, it would appear that the coal situation is fast becoming alarming, with no relief in

Accurate statistics on the stocks of anthracite and bituminous coal are not available later than March 1, in the geological survey, that bureau States the average was fifty-six days. not having the funds with which to Retail dealers as a class were the send out the investigators to get the only large group of consumers to reinformation, but the Department of port smaller stocks on March 1 than

It is apparent from the information in the possession of the government ary and February coal dealers had a the deadlock in the anthracite fields that the demand for coal is increasing with the lifting of the business days. depression, but in the face of this the production is decreasing.

garded as a common supply of fuel, tion. it will be seen that the coal now being raised weekly is from 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 tons below normal.

It is difficult to say, the government experts pointed out, just which great lic utilities, retailers and unbilled which meetings of engineers will be section of the country is suffering coal, April 1, 1922, approximated 68,- held in all sections of the country. greatest from the coal situation. The 500,000 tons. Assuming a weekly The Society of Industrial Engineers nanufacturing district of New England is said to be in a good condition total consumption up to June 3 was of the department of industrial engifrom a fuel standpoint, as are other 74,250,000 tons, of which 38,164,000 neering of New York University, is actions of the east, and it is believed tons was received from the mines president, and the Taylor Society will that the northwest and lake sections working, the balance being taken co-operate,

of the country will be hardest hit by from stock. There is, therefore, esti the shortage.

There has been little change during the week in the number of men on are being drawn upon to meet the duction. How great is the draft upon amount being mined, to last from stocks cannot be accurately stated. not known, but there are evidences that business is reviving and the consumption of coal increasing.

> Figures collected by the geological survey show that on March 1 consumers had in storage approximately 52.500.000 tons of soft coal. By April 1, considering the rate at which coal both anthracite and bituminous coal has been leaving the mines recently, this reserve will have increased to at on April 1 was about equal to the that stocks are never evenly divided. In every community there are consumers who store virtually no coal. It must also be remembered that a certain minimum reserve is necessary for steady operation, it being tricts of southeastern Kentucky be to 20,000,000 tons in 1920 the market of empty cars at the mines. As a conwas seriously disturbed.

Industrial consumers in New England as a whole carried a reserve of seventy-one days, and for the United Commerce has been collecting later at the beginning of the year. At the rate their customers were calling for soft coal in the two months of Janustock sufficient to last twenty-three

The danger level in the stock of soft coal has been placed at 20,000,000 at zero. In that week the output tons, and, as pointed out before, in- was limited to 253 cars of fifty tons dustries were seriously disturbed in each, or a total of 12,650 tons. But Production of soft coal in the elev- 1920, when the stocks reached that this mere drop in the bucket was not enth week of the strike was 5,078,000 level. The geological survey officials mined coal but coal dredged from the tons, but the experts said that the pointed out that the present market week just closed, statistics for which has quickened, as indicated by the fore would not affect the demand in are not yet in, is expected to show a rising spot prices—that is, the prices decrease in production. Including the paid for eoal not sold on contract. 18,000 tons dredged from the rivers, Some districts now are producing at the total output of all coal during a maximum, but in others, particuthe week ending June 17 was 5,091,000 | larly the Southern Appalachian, which tons. In the corresponding week of includes part of Kentucky, Tennessee 1921, a year of acute business de- and Alabama, and the field of the Engineers Designate pression, production, including an- Rocky Mountain states, including thracite, was 9,974,000 tons. In the Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and active year of 1920, it was 12,315,000 Washington, not affected by the tons. It was pointed out that if an- strike, demand is not yet active thracite and bituminous coal be re- enough to call out full-time produc-

> It has been estimated that the stock of bituminous coal in the hands of railroads, industrial consumers, pub- 21 as "Management week," during consumption of 8,100,000 tons, the of which Prof. Joseph W. Ros, head

mated to be in storage, June 3 o this year, 32.564,000 tons. Of this tonnage, 12,564,000 can be safely used before there is a danger of a coal ernment agencies studying the coal strike, but the consumers' stock piles ly divided. It is, therefore, probable deficit between consumption and prosome localities may already be below continuing, and assuming the coa because the rate of consumption is divided, it will be four or five months now being produced can be evenly

before a general shortage occurs. Normal coal production in all the bituminous fields is placed at 12,315,-000 tons a week, but the amount now being taken from the mines is said to be from 5.000,000 to 7.000,000 tons be low normal, and consumers' stocks of are being drawn on steadily.

Examination of the figures for the eleven weeks of the strike showing the loading of fresh-mined coal on the cars indicated a gradual increase until the eleventh week, June 12 to 17. The week started out well, but or Thursday serious congestion of railroad yards and sidings in certain'disgan to interfere with the placemen sequence loadings were about a thousand cars below those of the pre vious week. It was said to be unlike ly, therefore, that the total output for the eleventh week will do no more than reach the 5,000,000 mark. Unless there is a return to opera tions in the anthracite fields, the consumers of domestic size coal in the country are likely to be hardest his by the shortage, because soft steam coal is being mined in some quantities. There was no break noted in in the eleventh week of the strike Reports to the government show that the production practically continues rivers. It was steam coal, and theredomestic sizes. In the corresponding week of a year ago, the figures show that 1,963,000 tons of hard coal were

Management Week

To stimulate national interest in the solution of the problems of management in industry, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers has designated the period October 16 to

ex-President to Be Paid Honors in Europe. tion abroad are made in the biog-HIEF JUSTICE TAFT IS the fourth former President of the United States

to be accorded distinguished honor on his visit to England. Preceding him were ex-Presidents Millard Fillmore, U. S. Grant and Theodore Roosevelt. Search of the biographies of the Presidents fails to reveal any others who visited England or continental Europe after their term of office expired. Woodrow Wilson, who departed for Europe early in December, 1918, was the only President who went abroad while chief executive of the United States.

A number of the early Presidents were received in foreign lands with honor before they were elected to the position of chief executive of this country. John Adams was minister to England in 1785. John Quincy Adams, his son, was minister to The Hague in 1794, afterward being transferred to Russia, and also, he assisted as an envoy from the United States in negotiating the treaty of Ghent in 1814, ending the war of 1812 with England. Jefferson was minister to France in 1785. Monroe was minister to the same country in 1794, and again in 1802. He was also sent as minister to England and to Spain. Buchanan was minister to Russia in 1831 and in 1852 minister to England. But, as has been said, all these appointments were made before the men receiving them had been elected Presi-

The first ex-President to visit Europe was Millard Fillmore, who made the trip in 1855. While in England he was the recipient of marked attention from eminent people. He was received by the queen and was treated as a person of great distinction.

It is somewhat remarkable that only brief references to his recep-

raphies of Fillmore. Beyond the fact that he declined the degree of D. C. L. from the University of Oxford, very little notice seems to have been given his experiences. It is mentioned that he refused the degree because he disliked to participate in the ceremonial attaching to its bestowal. He made another trip abroad in 1866, but only a line in his biography covers that

Of course, the foreign tour of ex-President Grant, which began in England in 1877, was the outstanding trip of all former Presidents. It extended from Liverpool to Tokio and was a continuous triumphal progress. Grant was received by many sovereigns from the time the Queen of England invited him to stay at Windsor Castle to the momentous occasion when the Emperor of Japan shook his hand, an event unprecedented in the history of the Japanese empire. Elaborate preparations were made throughout Europe and Asia for Gen. Grant's reception. In May, 1877, Secretary of State Evarts addressed a communication to the diplomatic and consular officers of the United States announcing the projected tour and calling upon them to make Grant's journey a pleasant one. Consequently, it gave to the tour all the majesty and importance of an official pilgrimmage. Gen. Grant sailed from Philadelphia, May 17, and before he returned he had visited England, continental Europe, Africa and Asia. After a vociferous welcome at Liverpool, he visited Manchester and Leicester and received the freedom of the city in London, almost on the same spot in the Guildhall, where thirty-three years lat-

er Theodore Roosevelt, another

(Continued on Third Page.)

former President of the United States, accepted the gold box con-

To Fund for Retiring Workers

who are shareholders in the proval, June 17. 636.69 last year and approximately 21/2 per cent from the salary of each which time 1.06 per cent of salaries \$14,000,000 this year. This fund has employe and then reporting the total of employes would be sufficient to been raised entirely from deductions amount deducted in each department support the fund. of 21/2 per cent from the pay of the to the division of bookkeeping and government workers. The United warrants in the Treasury Department States government has not paid one to be included in an annual report to tribution of the federal government cent toward the establishment of this Congress. The total deductions re- to the fund Representative Fredfund, although it was understood in ported for the fiscal year ended June passing the legislation that the fed- 30, 1921, were as follows: Legislative, service committee of the House, eral government was to be a generous \$134,899.63; executive proper, \$18,- points out that now, while the govcontributor, and although the opera- 651.34; Panama canal, maintenance ernment is borrowing money and tion of the retirement act will result and operation, \$28,100.83; State De- while the fund raised by deductions in economy and efficiency by making partment, \$23,210.23; Treasury De- from the pay of employes is sufficient it possible to retire from the service pastment, \$1,331,965.47; independent to meet all annuity requirements, it worn-out employes without committing acts of inhumanity.

self provides for a board of actuaries ment, \$2,073,388.08; Interior Departwhose duty it shall be to annually ment, \$270,394.82; Post Office Departeport upon the actual operations of ment, including postal service, \$6,557,this act, with authority to recommend 062.51; Department of Agriculture, they pay in 2½ per cent of their to the commissioner of pensions such \$456.311.80; Department of Commerce, tem upon a sound financial basis."

This commission submitted a reort last December which called forc- mated, the deductions during the fiscal ibly to the attention of Congress the year which ends June 30 will aggrenecessity for "definite annual appro- gate \$14,000,000. cover the government's share of the ficult forecast on account of the it will not be necessary for ten years priations from the government to normal deficiency contributions and large number separated from the for the accumulation of these ap- service in the various departments propriations in the fund at interest and the consequent abnormal demand in the same way as the unexpended for refunds of money which these discontributions of employes are now

This board of actuaries also made our definite recommendiations looking to the removal of certain existing inequalities in the law. Yet Congress July 21, 1922, there will be about 7.500, has not seen fit to consider measures or an increase of 1,000 during the to carry out the recommendations as present fiscal year. There was exprovided for in the act itself, and, pended last year to those 6,471 anaccording to those who should father nuitants \$2,590,568.52. The amount such measures, is not likely to do so that will be paid during the current

As nearly as the Civil Service Commission can say there are today 368,-882 employes of the government in country. On May 31, the number of Capital was 73,253. This includes those proximately \$2,200,000. who are paid from lump sum approstatutory rolls whose pay is provided for specifically in the annual appropriation bills. Practically all of these come within the scope of the re-

broadened to take in nearly 27,000 ad- hanced. Bonds to the par value of as a reasonably prudent person should ditional employes. By an executive \$17,984,250 were bought at an invest- take to safeguard against want in order of June 7, 1922, the President ment cost of \$17,190,605.64. The in- age when one's earning capacity is ceiving \$600 or more, and Congress 254.64. on June 17, by an amendment covered in classified and unclassified employes | mended to Congress, through the Sec- passed providing for a compulsory receiving less than \$600. About 22,600 retary of the Interior, that if the contribution of 21/2 per cent to such are affected by the executive order, present scheme of benefits were kept an annuity fund.

HERE are today approximately and about 4,000 are affected by the per cent of their salaries, the gov-350,000 government employes amendment, effective from date of ap- ernment should be required to put

Uncle Sam Has Not Contributed

trict of Columbia, \$47,658.4f; War De- to borrow money to put into this Furthermore, the retirement act it- partment, \$1,124,918.71; Navy Depart- fund.

changes as in its judgment may be \$146,653.37; Department of Labor, of the employes are not sufficient to deemed necessary to protect the pub- \$77,076.83; Department of Justice and meet the annuity disbursements the lic interest and to maintain the sys- judicial, \$18,069.21—making a total of federal government will make up the \$12,513,636.69.

missed employes have paid into the

fund and a return of which they are

entitled to. The number of annuitants on the roll of July 1, 1921, was 6,471, and on fiscal year to the 7,500 annuitants will be approximately \$4,200,000.

During the fiscal year 1921 there were 26,116 claims for refunds, which the District and throughout the entire aggregated \$322,978.82, and during the current fiscal year there are government employes in the National about 70,000 refunds, aggregating ap-

raised by the deduction of 21/2 per cent from each employe's salary and insurance standpoint, while the shall be invested. It is now invested government is not and never has inin liberty bonds bearing 4% and 4% tended to pay annuities as insurance per cent interest. These liberty bonds in proportion to premiums paid. He below their face value, so that the on which the retirement legislation Very recently the act has been ultimate value of the fund is en- is based is to take such precautions

aside 2.31 per cent of the pay roll The fund is raised by each unit of for the retirement benefits of emwhich they contributed \$12,513, the government service withholding ployes for about thirty years, after

In discussing the contemplated conerick Lehlbach, chairman of the civil bureaus and offices, \$205,275.45; Dis- would be folly for the government

> The government's position is that it has contracted to pay certain fixed annuities to government employes if deficit. The government is now a borrower from the employes' contri butions, and sooner or later these borrowings must be repaid.

> It is desirable, Chairman Lehlbach stresses, that legislation be pu through as soon as possible, although do it now. If the government must clerks as it is now doing. As soon as the Treasury is in easier condition it will be wise for Congress to take up the matter of making definite annual appropriations to the fund merely to keep down what would be a cumulative cost in the future. This will not be undertaken until the danger of a deficit in the Treasury is averted.

> But the entire system rests on the good faith of the government. It is inconceivable that the government after collecting contributions from employes over a period of years would "welch" on paying annuitles when due, and any individual employe could go into the Court of Claims and get his annuity.

Regarding the four recommends

tions made by the board of actuaries to remove certain inequalities, Repre-The law provides how the fund sentative Lehlbach argues that they viewed the matter from an actuarial were bought in the open market and insists that the fundamental principle overed in unclassified employes re- terest and profits amount to \$587,- gone. Experience showed that government employes were not making The board of actuaries has recom- such provision, and so legislation was

First-Class American Fleet Wanted To Be Present at Brazil Exposition

fore the anxiety o nthe part of those most vitally concerned as to whether the United States will be represented at the Brazilian centennial exposition by an "imposing fleet,, or whether this country will be content to send down second-class vessel or so to keep up appearances.

The issue may be brought to a head oon, for William G. Stevens, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Brazil and a delegate representing the United States at the centennial, has come post haste from Rio de Janeiro to urge a naval representation commensurate with that planned by Japan, England and

Naval officers are inclined to view the situation pessimistically. The Navy bill has made them so. They haven't the fuel oil needed now for ordinary maneuvers, they say, let lone an extraordinary maneuver. such as sending a first-class fleet chasing "way down to Brazil" on a twenty-day cruise. And they've come tive hears the Navy wants something extra, cries of "Bloody murder, stop thief!" echo back and forth from Capitol Hill, and the Congressional Record gets bulky in defense of the voters who have to foot the bill. It seems a special appropriation for the trip would be necessary, and special appropriations for the Navy aren't the most popular things in the world

The Navy Department has not heard yet what sort of fleets are going to be sent from France, England and apan. But the impression has been reated that all three powers are preparing to send fleets in keeping with the significance of the occasion and Brazil's importance in the world today. Mr. Stevens came to the United States on the strength of reports that the United States did not intend to send a first-class fleet because of the shortage, or rather scarcity, of fuel.

A naval officer whose rank and position enables him to speak with au- which would be created in the minds fair. And the participation of other thority states that the United States of South Americans who saw a countries will be under the critical should retain its present prestige in second-rate fleet flying the American eyes of Latin America as a whole.

Brazil by sending a fleet of three first- | flag, lying alongside the latest ships ATIONAL prestige in a far- class dreadnaughts to Brazil under of Japan, England and France in the away country isn't measured command of an officer of high rank, harbor of Rio de Janeiro. It would in dollars and cents and an admiral, preferably the command- be unfortunate, to say the least, if voters back home. Fuel oil ing officer of the Atlantic fleet. The this country did not live up to all for the Navy is, and there's a theory cost for fuel, counting on a cruise that has been said concerning good that every gallon of it saved to the of forty days—twenty there and will and fellowship among the Amerdowntrodden, over-burdened, etc., tax- | twenty back-would amount to some- | ican republics. The United States payer means one more vote. There- thing over \$200,000. Congress has appropriated \$1,000,000 for representation by the United States in the Bra- the occasion, a thing to be marked on zilian centennial, but this sum must the memory of the Latin American include the erection of a permanent republics. It would not do to fail building, which afterward will serve in any respect. as the American embassy; the salaries of the American commissioners in

> be some left over, but in this officer's opinion, the State Department, which has the fund in charge, will not be willing to transfer the surplus to the Navy Department. So a special appropriation of \$200,000 or more seems necessary. Retaining our prestige, the respect of Brasil and the friendly relations

> which have always characterized our be little short of tragic to our South American relations. "England, France and Japan have

fleet to Rio de Janeiro for the expo-Brazil will suffer.

"South Americans, particularly Brazil, feel that the sisterhood of their entertainment, the blue jackets American republics is at stake. They feel that if the United States does dor. not send an imposing fleet out of a desire to honor Brazil, the sisterhood of republics will then be only

should be the outstanding feature of charge of the American exhibits, and Naval officers see an added importhe cost of arranging and transporttance in an adequate naval repreing the various exhibits entered by

sentation. There is a budget before the different departments of the the Brazilian congress at present for United States government. There may bearing the expenses of a naval mission to Brazil. The choice of this mission lies between Great Britain and the United States. There are too many European missions in Latin America now for the good of the United States. The influence of these missions extends out and beyond the army or navy and enters commercial and national sentiment. The opportunity for the United States to send a naval mission to Brazil came as a dealings with that republic are cheap direct result of a friendly call in at \$200,000-and more. Mr. Stevens, 28 Brazil by Admiral Caperton's squadquoted recently by the Associated ren during the war. It was followed Press, puts the case rather strongly. by Brazil's invitation to send a naval We are making this special trip to commission there, which is still on to feel that every time a Representa- Washington," he says, "because of the duty. The naval mission differs from report that America might not be able the commission in that its influence to send a first-line fleet because of is greater and its field of activity the scarcity of fuel. We are ready to more important. It is natural that ask for a special appropriation be- if the choice lies between Great cause we believe that a little thing like Britain and the United States, the the lack of fuel in this nation would country which makes the most favorable impression by its naval rep resentation is the one which will be chosen. When American battleships signified their desire to send a real called at Peru last summer during the celebration of her centennial sition. It is certain that England their reception was cordial and will present a fleet of the very high- wholehearted, and an American neval est sort. If America sends down a mission is on duty in Peru today. second-class fleet, our relations with The bluejackets made permanent friends of the Peruvians-despite the fact that at the builfight staged for cheered the bull instead of the mata

> It must be remembered that the prestige of the United States in this case will not be confined to Brazil. While Brazil is celebrating her cen It is not necessary to dwell on the tennial with an exposition, the latimpression of the United States ter is in a way a Latin American af-